

Production No. 9F09

The Simpsons

"HOMER'S TRIPLE BYPASS"

Written by

Gary Apple & Michael Carrington

Created by
Matt Groening

Developed by
James L. Brooks
Matt Groening
Sam Simon

This script is not for publication or reproduction. No one is authorized to dispose of same. If lost or destroyed, please notify Script Department.

THE WRITING CREDITS MAY NOT BE FINAL AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR PUBLICITY OR ADVERTISING PURPOSES WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING WITH TELEVISION LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Return to Script Department
20TH CENTURY FOX TELEVISION
10201 W. Pico Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90035

FINAL DELIVERY

Date 6/19/92

"HOMER'S TRIPLE BYPASS"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
PATTY.....JULIE KAVNER
SELMA.....JULIE KAVNER
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
BURNS.....HARRY SHEARER
SMITHERS.....HARRY SHEARER
KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
SIDESHOW MEL.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MOE.....HANK AZARIA
BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
EDDIE.....HARRY SHEARER
LOU.....HANK AZARIA
CHIEF WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
DR. HIBBERT.....HARRY SHEARER
NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER
REVEREND LOVEJOY.....HARRY SHEARER
LENNY.....HARRY SHEARER
CARL.....HANK AZARIA
ANGRY MAN.....HANK AZARIA

PAGE 2.

JAILBIRD.....HANK AZARIA
NICK RIVIERA.....HANK AZARIA
INTERN.....HANK AZARIA
NURSE.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
INSURANCE AGENT.....HANK AZARIA
PIG.....HANK AZARIA
MOLE MAN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
REPORTERS.....DAN/HANK/MAGGIE
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER...MAGGIE ROSWELL
VIDEOTAPE NARRATOR.....DAN CASTELLANETA
TALK SHOW HOST.....HANK AZARIA
COFFEE POT MAN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MED STUDENTS.....DAN/HANK/NANCY
DRIVER.....HANK AZARIA
GAS STATION ATTENDANT...HANK AZARIA
GAS STATION BOY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
WAITRESS.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
MAN WITH CHINESE PUZZLE.DAN CASTELLANETA
LIBRARIAN.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
ANNOUNCER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
HOMER'S SPIRIT.....DAN CASTELLANETA
PILOT.....HANK AZARIA

"HOMER'S TRIPLE BYPASS"

By
Gary Apple & Michael Carrington

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

COPS: in Springfield!

ON TV

SUPER: COPS: IN SPRINGFIELD

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - NIGHT

CHIEF WIGGUM and several other COPS stand outside.

WIGGUM

All right, boys, time to bag us a
cattle rustler.

He gestures and a tank with a battering ram **BANGS** down the door. REVEREND LOVEJOY runs out.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

What in God's name are you doing?

WIGGUM

(CONFUSED) Isn't this 742 Evergreen
Terrace?

REVEREND LOVEJOY

No, that's next door.

He points next door. We see a house with cows roaming the lawn. JAILBIRD **PEELS** out in his car.

JAILBIRD

Close but no donut, cops.

He **ROARS** off. Wiggum gets on his radio.

WIGGUM

This is "Papa Bear." Put out an A.P.B.
for a male suspect; driving a...
(THINKS) car of some sort; heading in
the direction of... you know, that
place that sells chili. Suspect is
hatless. Repeat, hatless.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

HOMER lies in bed, in his pajamas, eating a turkey
drumstick and watching TV.

HOMER

I can't wait till they throw his
hatless butt in jail.

MARGE enters in her bathrobe.

MARGE

(CONCERNED) You really shouldn't eat
so much in bed.

ANGLE ON BED

Besides the turkey drumstick, Homer also has pizza, a fondu
pot, a plate of spaghetti and a 64 ounce bottle labelled,
"DIET SODA".

BACK TO SCENE

MARGE (CONT'D)

It's not good for your heart.

HOMER

My heart is just fine... (PAINED NOISE)

MARGE

Homie, what is it?

HOMER

Just workin' the turkey through.

(POUNDS CHEST, THEN HAPPY) There it goes!

ON TV

We see the cops sitting at a diner. A waitress is totalling the bill.

WAITRESS

Let's see... that's six pieces of pie and three Irish coffees. That'll be \$15.95.

WIGGUM

(TEARING UP CHECK) You're new here aren't you?

Wiggum stuffs the torn-up check it in her blouse pocket.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

BART takes a bite of cereal and quickly CHEWS it.

BART

Hey Lis, there was a big train wreck last night. Wanna see the victims?

LISA

(SUSPICIOUS) Huh, okay.

Bart sticks out his tongue which is covered with chewed up cereal.

LISA (CONT'D)

Bart, that's gross!

BART

You're right. Let's bury them at sea.

With his spoon, Bart scrapes the cereal off his tongue into Lisa's bowl where it lands with a **PLOP**. Just as he does this, Homer, dressed for work, enters the kitchen.

LISA

(SCREAMS) Daaad!

Homer clutches his chest and **GASPS**.

BART

What's wrong?

HOMER

(PLEASANTLY) You know that feeling you get when a thousand knives of fire are stabbing you in the heart? I've got that right now. (THEN) Ooh... bacon!

Homer starts shoveling bacon in his mouth. Marge enters the kitchen.

MARGE

Homer, I prepared a special surprise just for you.

Homer recovers his composure. He pictures what his surprise could be.

HOMER'S FANTASY

The surprise is a huge, roast PIG with an apple in its mouth. Homer pulls the apple out.

PIG

Psst! The best meat's in the rump.

The pig winks.

BACK TO SCENE

Homer snaps out of it when Marge presents him with a bowl of bland oatmeal topped with apple slices.

HOMER

What the hell is this?

MARGE

Nice healthy oatmeal.

HOMER

Ooh, oatmeal. What a delightful treat.

(TAKES THE BOWL, THEN LYING) Ugh,
there's a bug in it.

Homer starts to pour it down the sink.

MARGE

No there isn't.

HOMER

Trust me.

MARGE

I'm just trying to get you to eat
better.

Homer takes a mouthful and starts chewing.

HOMER

(SARCASTIC) Look, Marge, you've had
your little joke. Now feed your man.

He shovels bacon and eggs onto his plate and CHOWS down.

BART

Dad, there's a bug on that.

HOMER

Eh.

Homer eats it anyway.

INT. HOMER'S CAR - LATER

Homer, driving to work, is stuck behind a slow moving truck carrying a house labelled, "BIRTHPLACE OF EDGAR ALLAN POE". He flashes his lights, then **HONKS** his horn.

HOMER

Come on, come on! National treasure,
my ass!

Homer repeatedly **SLAMS** into the truck. Wood **CRACKS**. A weather vane falls off the house's roof and bounces off Homer's hood.

INT. TRUCK CAB

The MOLE MAN is driving.

MOLE MAN

Oh dear.

The cab lurches forward. His glasses fall off and **SHATTER**.

MOLE MAN (CONT'D)

Now, you've done it.

INT. HOMER CAR

Homer **GROWLS** and repeatedly **RAMS** the rear of the truck. Suddenly Homer hears something and pulls off the road.

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

HOMER

I keep hearing this horrible irregular
thumping noise.

THE ATTENDANT listens carefully.

ATTENDANT

(WISE GUY VOICE) It's your heart. And
I think it's on its last thump.

HOMER

Whew! I was afraid it was my
transmission.

Homer pulls away. A young gas station BOY comes over to
the attendant.

GAS STATION BOY

Hey, where's he goin'?

ATTENDANT

(FATHERLY) Billy, remember when that
tire blew out and we just couldn't find
a way to save it?

BILLY

He's goin' to the tire yard?

ATTENDANT

You're a dull boy, Billy.

EXT. NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - ESTABLISHING - DAY

INT. NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - BURNS' OFFICE

BURNS is in front of a bank of monitors with SMITHERS,
staring at one screen that shows Homer eating donuts.

BURNS

Eh, look at that pig stuffing his face
with donuts on my time. (TO MONITOR)
That's right, keep eating. Little do
you know you're drawing ever closer to
the poisoned donut. (CHUCKLES) There
is a poisoned one isn't there,
Smithers?

SMITHERS

Uh, no sir. I discussed this with our
lawyers. They consider it murder.

BURNS

Damn their oily hides.

Burns looks back at the monitor. Homer has crawled onto
the table and is asleep with his head on a donut box.

BURNS (CONT'D)

Bring him to me!

INT. NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - BURNS' OFFICE - LATER

Homer stands nervously in front of his boss. As an **INSET**,
we see Homer's heart react to what he's experiencing. The
heart continues to beat rapidly.

BURNS

(CONGENIAL) Relax, Simpson. I just
brought you in for a friendly, "Hello."

We see Homer's heart rate relax.

BURNS (CONT'D)

... and, "Goodbye!" You're fired!

Homer's heart speeds up again.

BURNS (CONT'D)

But wait, perhaps I'm being too hasty.
You are highly skilled...

The heart relaxes again.

BURNS (CONT'D)

... at goofing off!

Homer's heart races again.

BURNS (CONT'D)

And your indolence is inefficacious!

Homer doesn't know what this means, and his heart is not sure how to respond.

BURNS (CONT'D)

That means you're terrible!

That's the last straw -- Homer's heart freaks out and turns blue. Homer clutches his chest and falls to the floor. Smithers kneels over him.

SMITHERS

Mr. Burns, I think he's dead.

Burns looks down. Unseen by him, HOMER'S SPIRIT starts to emerge from his body.

BURNS

Oh dear. Send a ham to his widow.

HOMER'S SPIRIT

Mmm... ham.

Homer's spirit goes back into his body. Homer's eyes open.

SMITHERS

No, wait. He's alive.

BURNS

Oh good. Cancel the ham.

HOMER

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

EXT. STREET - DAY

We see an ambulance speeding toward the hospital.

INT. AMBULANCE

The DRIVER turns to Homer, who lies in the back.

DRIVER

Hey, my wife asked me to pick up some
cat food at the Kwik-E-Mart. You mind
if we stop?

HOMER

(WEAKLY) S'okay... get me... some
jerky.

EXT. ROAD - A LITTLE LATER

The ambulance waits as a deer crosses at a deer crossing
sign.

DRIVER

Wow, look at that! How do they know to
cross there?

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM - DAY

Homer is wheeled into the Emergency Room, a very busy
place. We see familiar characters with assorted
ailments...

The camera moves past JASPER, his beard caught in the
spokes of his bicycle.

Then we see SIDESHOW MEL stuck in a circus cannon. Krusty
is with him as a team of DOCTORS look on.

The doctors light the cannon's fuse.

MEL

I'm telling you, it's not going to
work.

The canon **EXPLODES**, and when the smoke clears, Mel is still
stuck.

MEL (CONT'D)

See?

KRUSTY

You know who I really feel sorry for...
Sideshow Phil. Mel's standing on his
shoulders.

Homer passes by a frazzled INTERN who's been on duty for a
hundred-fifty hours straight.

INTERN

Send that woman to x-ray... pump that
man's stomach.

He looks woozy for a beat.

NURSE

Doctor, you've been up for four days.
I really think you should sleep.

INTERN

I like strawberry jam. Strawberry jam
is ever so good.

The camera moves on to find CHIEF WIGGUM. His jaw is
locked wide open. EDDIE stands next to him holding a
tremendous submarine sandwich.

EDDIE

Yeah, he was taking a bite and his jaw
locked.

LOU

Hey, look. I can fit my entire fist in
here.

He demonstrates by putting his fist in Wiggum's mouth.

WIGGUM

(ANGRY OPEN MOUTH NOISES)

LOU

What's that, Chief?

WIGGUM

(ANGRY NOISES CONTINUE)

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Marge sits at the table with PATTY and SELMA, clipping coupons.

PATTY

Oooh, "Buy three tubes of Mr. Blister,
get one free."

The **PHONE RINGS** and Marge answers...

MARGE

(INTO THE PHONE) Hello?... Yes... Oh,
dear lord! (TO HER SISTERS - VERY
WORRIED) Homer's in the hospital! They
think it's his heart.

Marge runs out, terribly upset. After a beat...

SELMA

Oh, my God.

PATTY

What?

SELMA

Five cents off wax paper.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - DAY

HIBBERT

Clear!

We see DR. HIBBERT shocking Homer with the defibrillator.
Homer gestures for another shock. Hibbert shocks Homer
again.

HOMER

More.

Hibbert shocks him again. Homer gives him the "OK" sign.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Thank you.

Hibbert starts to put the equipment away as Homer sits up. Marge runs in and gives Homer a big hug.

MARGE

Oh, Homie, I was so frightened.

HOMER

Marge, my whole life flashed before my eyes.

FLASHBACK

We see Homer's life:

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

A YOUNGER GRAMPA is looking through the maternity ward window. PAN across a row of babies to see BABY HOMER in a crib labelled "Simpson." He's eating a slice of pizza.

GRAMPA

How'd he get that?!

The nurses shrug.

INT. CATHEDRAL - NIGHT

TWELVE YEAR-OLD HOMER is performing "O HOLY NIGHT" solo in front of a boy's choir. He has a beautiful voice.

HOMER

(BOY SOPRANO VOICE) Fall on your knees/
Oh hear the angels' voices/ Oh ni-ight
di-vine/

We see Grampa in the audience.

GRAMPA

What a voice. Young Homer is going to
make me a millionaire.

ON HOMER

HOMER

Oh ni-ight, di- (VOICE CRACKS) vine.
(HOMER'S ADULT VOICE) Hey, my voice
just changed. (SINGS BADLY, LIKE HOMER)
Oh night, when Christ was born...

GRAMPA

Dagnabit!

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Homer sits in a seat. PASSENGERS around him look on
happily.

PILOT (V.O.)

Folks, because of our eleven hour
delay, we'll be handing out headsets so
that you may watch "Weekend at
Bernie's" for free.

HOMER

YEAH!

He leaps up in his seat and thrusts his fist in the air.

FLASHBACK ENDS - BACK TO SCENE

DR. HIBBERT

Mr. Simpson, I'm afraid you've just had
a mild heart attack.

HOMER

But I'm out of the woods now, right? I mean, whatever doesn't kill me can only make me stronger.

DR. HIBBERT

Oh no, quite the opposite. It's made you weak as a kitten. (CHUCKLES) Look!

Hibbert slaps Homer playfully.

HOMER

(WEAKLY) Hey, c'mon, quit it.

HIBBERT

Coochy coochy coo! (ETC.)

He continues to tousle Homer's hair and pinch his cheeks.

HOMER

(WEAK) Stop. Please stop.

MARGE

(WORRIED MURMUR) Can't you do something for him?

DR. HIBBERT

Well, we can't fix his heart, but we can tell you exactly how damaged it is.

HOMER

(IMPRESSED) What an age we live in!

INT. HOSPITAL

We see Homer's head behind a full body screen. On the screen, Homer's circulatory system is green and glowing. Hibbert explains the procedure to Marge.

DR. HIBBERT

What you see here is the radioactive
dye we injected, flowing through your
husband's circulatory system.

NURSE

(HOLDING A GLOWING SYRINGE) But doctor,
I haven't injected the dye yet!

DR. HIBBERT

(QUIETLY) Good lord.

Behind the screen, Homer smiles and waves.

HOMER

(CHEERFUL) Hi.

INT. HOSPITAL - TREADMILL ROOM - DAY

Dr. Hibbert, holding a clipboard, watches as Homer, with
electrodes taped to his chest, walks a treadmill.

HOMER

Am I there yet?

DR. HIBBERT

(PATIENTLY) No, Homer.

HOMER

Am I there yet?

DR. HIBBERT

(PATIENTLY) No, Homer.

HOMER

Am I there yet?

DR. HIBBERT

(IRRITATED) No, Homer.

INT. DR. HIBBERT'S OFFICE

Hibbert sits at his desk. Marge and Homer sit on chairs in front of him.

HIBBERT

Homer, I'm afraid you'll have to
undergo a coronary by-pass operation.

HOMER

Say it in English, doc.

HIBBERT

You're going to need open heart
surgery!

HOMER

Spare me your medical mumbo jumbo.

HIBBERT

We're going to cut you open and tinker
with your ticker.

HOMER

Could you dumb it down a shade?

MARGE

(INTERJECTING) Doctor, we'll do what
ever it takes to get my Homie well.

HIBBERT

Good. (SOMBER) Good. I must warn you
though, the procedure will cost you
upwards of 40,000 dollars.

HOMER

I'll give you 500.

MARGE

Homer!

HOMER

(OUT OF CORNER OF MOUTH) Marge, you've
got to haggle with these guys.

INT. SIMPSON CAR - CONTINUOUS

Marge and Homer are driving home.

MARGE

I don't know how we can afford this
operation.

HOMER

Don't worry, Marge. America's health
insurance system is second only to
Japan, Canada, Sweden, Great Britain...
well, all of Europe. But, you can
thank your lucky stars we don't live in
Paraguay.

Marge breaks down **CRYING**.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Marge and Homer are in bed with their financial records spread out in front of them.

HOMER

Okay, okay. We need forty-thousand dollars. Now, how much do we have in the checkbook?

MARGE

Seventy dollars.

HOMER

Hmm, have we deposited any forty-thousand dollar checks that haven't cleared yet?

MARGE

No. Don't you have health insurance at work?

HOMER

Well actually, we gave it all up for a pinball machine in the lounge.

MARGE

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

HOMER

Don't worry, Marge. I've got it all figured out. As soon as they're done with me, you fall down and pretend to have a heart attack. And while they're operating on you, I'll drive away.

(CHUCKLES)

MARGE

(WORRIED MURMUR)

Homer sees Marge looking very upset.

HOMER (CONT'D)

What?

MARGE

I just can't see how we're going to get through this.

A crafty look crosses Homer's face.

HOMER

Don't worry, Marge, my heart may be bad, but I've still got...

He taps his head.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(SEARCHING FOR WORD)... this deal.

EXT. MERRY WIDOW INSURANCE COMPANY - DAY

A neon sign shows a Merry Widow holding a huge check. Her legs dance crazily on her husband's grave.

INT. INSURANCE COMPANY - CONTINUOUS

An INSURANCE AGENT sits at his desk, filling out a questionnaire. Homer is sitting in front of him.

INSURANCE AGENT

Now before we give you health insurance, I have to ask you a few questions.

HOMER

(UPSET) Questions? Questions? Oh gee, my whole scheme down the...

(SMOOTHLY) I mean, ask away.

INSURANCE AGENT

Oh good. (LOOKS AT FORM) Now, under "Heart Attacks" you crossed out "3" and wrote "0".

HOMER

Oh, I thought that said, "Brain Hemorrhages."

INSURANCE AGENT

Uh huh. And do you drink?

HOMER

I do enjoy a snifter of port at Christmas.

INSURANCE AGENT

All right. Here's your policy.

Homer starts to pocket the policy.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(SMUG) Now let me tell you something, Mr. Sucker...I just...

INSURANCE AGENT

Hold on there, you still have to sign
it.

HOMER

Oh.

Homer takes the pen, but as he leans over to sign, he has
another heart attack. He clutches his chest.

HOMER

(WITH DIFFICULTY) Must... sign...
policy...

Homer tries desperately to sign the dotted line, but the
Insurance Agent grabs for the policy. He and Homer have a
brief tug-of-war (ADLIBBING).

INSURANCE AGENT

Sir, I'm sorry. I can't let you do
that.

HOMER

(GASPING FOR BREATH) I made an "H".

INSURANCE AGENT

No, that doesn't count.

HOMER

Looks like an "X."

The agent pulls the policy out of reach. Homer collapses.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM

Once again, a horizontal Homer is surrounded by Dr. Hibbert
and ASSISTANTS.

HIBBERT

Clear!

Hibbert **SHOCKS** Homer back to life again with the
defibrillator.

HOMER

(DREAMILY) Oh doctor, I was in a wonderful place filled with fire and brimstone. And there were all these guys in red pajamas sticking pitchforks in my butt.

HIBBERT

Mr. Simpson, you must get that operation as soon as possible.

HOMER

I can't afford it. (RE:
DEFIBRILLATOR) Maybe I should buy one of those machines.

INT. SPRINGFIELD CHURCH - DAY

Homer sits in front of Reverend Lovejoy.

HOMER

Now, I know I haven't been the best Christian. In fact, when you're up there "Blah, blah, blah-ing" I'm usually doodling or mentally undressing the female parishioners... well, anyhoo... can I have \$40,000?

INT. SPRINGFIELD TEMPLE - DAY

Homer is sitting in front of RABBI KRUSTOFSKY.

HOMER

Now, I know I haven't been the best Jew... but I rented "Fiddler on the Roof", and I will watch it. Anyway, can I have \$40,000?

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Homer sits at the coffee table playing with a dreidel.
Marge enters.

MARGE

Honey, did you have any luck?

HOMER

No, but the rabbi gave me this.

BART

What is it, Dad?

HOMER

(INSTRUCTIVE) Son, they call it a "doodle". (SPINS IT) Whoo hoo! Look at him go!

ON TV

A commercial comes on for DR. NICK RIVIERA.

NICK RIVIERA

Hi Everybody. Are you looking for a way to slash the cost of your medical expenses?

BACK TO SCENE

HOMER

Bo - ring.

Homer reaches for the remote control. Marge stops him.

MARGE

Wait, this might be the answer we're
looking for.

Homer looks intrigued.

ON TV

NICK RIVIERA

I will perform any operation for
\$129.95.

A **SUPER** flashes on the screen: STERILE INSTUMENTS!

NICK RIVIERA (CONT'D)

How do I do it? Well, if I didn't tell
"60 Minutes," I'm not going to tell
you! (HE WINKS) Come in for brain
surgery and receive a free Chinese
finger trap.

We see a MAN with a horrible scar on his forehead, trying
to work a Chinese finger trap.

MAN

(GROWLS)

NICK RIVIERA

Okay, friend. You tried the best, now
try the rest. Call 1-600-DOCTORB. The
"B" is for bargain!

SUPER: 1-600-DOCTORB

HOMER

Well, Marge, we could do worse.

MARGE

How?

HOMER

Uh... some dog could do the operation.

LISA

Operation? What are you talking about?

HOMER

Kids, I have something to tell you.

MARGE

Oh, Homie, I don't know. This might
upset them.

BART

Nothing you say can upset us. We're
the MTV generation.

LISA

We feel neither highs nor lows.

HOMER

Really? What's it like?

LISA

Eh.

HOMER

Well, you kids are old enough to know
the truth and I'm not going to
sugarcoat it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

The entire family is gathered, as Homer explains the heart
bypass operation.

HOMER

So the tiny Aorta Fairies will take Mr.
Leg Vein on a long trip to get married
to Princess Left Ventricle.

LISA

(UPSET) Dad, are you trying to tell us
you're getting a coronary-artery bypass
graft?

HOMER

Uh, yeah.

BART

(UPSET) Oh, no. What if they botch
it? I won't have a dad... for a while.

Lisa starts **SNIFFLING**.

HOMER

Kids. Kids... I'm not gonna die. That
only happens to bad people.

BART

What about Abraham Lincoln?

HOMER

Uh... he sold poison milk to school
children.

MARGE

Homer!

HOMER

Hey, I'm just trying to make it easier
on them.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD GENERAL HOSPITAL - ESTABLISHING - DAY

INT. HOSPITAL - HOMER'S ROOM

Homer, now in a hospital gown, happily works his adjustable bed.

HOMER

Bed goes up. Bed goes down. Bed goes
up. Bed goes down...

FLANDERS (V.O.)

Homer Simpson! Well, if that don't put
the "dink" in co-inky-dink.

A hand pulls back the curtain separating the hospital room.
NED FLANDERS is in the other bed.

HOMER

Flanders? What are you doing here?

FLANDERS

Caught a burglar rifling through my
china hutch last night. Well sir, he
pulled a gun on me, and when I wrestled
him to the ground, I shot him.

HOMER

(BORED) Is this going anywhere?

FLANDERS

So, anyway, now he needs a kidney.
I've got two, so, I decided to share
the wealth! What are you in for?

HOMER

I got a bad heart.

FLANDERS

Ah, if I could give you my heart,
Homer, I would.

HOMER

Shut up, Flanders.

There is a silent beat, then --

NICK RIVIERA

(ENTERING) Hi, everybody! I'm Dr.
Nick Riviera -- if you find a cheaper
doctor, you're at the veterinarian!
(LAUGHS) Mr. Simpson, tomorrow I'll be
removing your jaw.

HOMER

Hey... I'm supposed to have a heart
bypass.

NICK RIVIERA

Okay, but I know how to do the jaw one.
Homer points to a MAN behind Riviera.

HOMER

Who's he?

NICK RIVIERA

Uh, he's from the medical board. He
just wants to make sure I don't do what
I did two months ago. (CHEERY) Well,
see you in the operating place!

Riviera opens the door to see a bunch of REPORTERS and
PHOTOGRAPHERS taking pictures.

REPORTERS

Dr. Riviera! Dr. Riviera! Where are
the bodies? (ETC.)

Riviera shuts the door.

NICK RIVIERA

Ah, such a nice day, I think I'll go
out the window.

He climbs out the window. Homer looks very sad.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - HOMER'S ROOM - NIGHT

Homer overhears Flanders praying.

FLANDERS

Dear Lord, thank you for Ziggy comics,
little baby ducks, and "Sweatin' to the
Oldies", Volumes One, Two and Four.

Homer, in his own way, tries to pray, too.

HOMER

Dear Lord, I'm really scared about this
operation tomorrow. If something
happens, please look after Marge, and
make sure my kids grow up right.

Nick Riviera sticks his head in the window.

NICK RIVIERA

Hey, you mind if I crash here? I need
a place to stay.

On Homer's reaction, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. FIRST CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD - SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

... And that's why God causes train wrecks.

The kids nod, satisfied. A worried Lisa raises her hand.

LISA

My dad is very sick. What's gonna happen if he dies?

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

Well, if he's been good, he'll go to heaven.

She writes "HEAVEN" on the board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER (CONT'D)

In heaven, you get to do whatever you like best, all the time.

Lisa pictures Homer in heaven with wings and a halo, lying on an adjustable cloud.

HOMER

Cloud goes up. Cloud goes down. Cloud goes up. Cloud goes down...

MATCH DISSOLVE
TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - HOMER'S ROOM

Homer is playing with his adjustable bed.

HOMER

Bed goes up. Bed goes down...

KRUSTY jumps into Homer's room.

KRUSTY

Hey hey!

A shocked Homer clutches his chest and **GASPS**.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Hey, what's the matter? (CHIPPER) Oh,
that's right. My grotesque appearance.
(LAUGHS)

HOMER

No Krusty, I'm glad you're here. I
could really use a good laugh.

KRUSTY

Well, there's nothing funny about what
you're about to go through. I know,
I'm in the Zipper Club myself.

Krusty rips open his shirt to reveal a long scar running
down his chest.

Krusty happily lights up and **PUFFS** a cigarette.

HOMER

You seem okay.

KRUSTY

Yeah? Well, I got news for ya. (TAPS
HIS WHITE FACE) This ain't make-up.

DISSOLVE TO:

Next, GRAMPA comes to visit Homer.

GRAMPA

They say the greatest tragedy is when a
father outlives his son. I've never
fully understood why that is. Frankly,
I can see an up side to it. (LAUGHS)

DISSOLVE TO:

Later, CARL and LENNY visit Homer, with a huge card that
his friends have signed.

LENNY

Hey, we passed this card around at
work.

When they hand him the card, we see that it has been
written on the back of a sign saying, "Emergency Procedures
-- Do Not Remove."

HOMER

Gee, thanks, guys.

CARL

They had a hell of a time replacing
you.

CUT TO:

INT. POWER PLANT - HOMER'S STATION

At Homer's console, we see that he has been replaced by a
brick on a string, which holds down a lever.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - HOMER'S ROOM - LATER

MOE and Barney pay their respects.

BARNEY

When I first heard about the operation,
I was against it. But then I thought,
if Homer wants to be a woman, so be it.
I even picked out a new name for you --
Harriet.

HOMER

Barney, I'm not getting a sex change!

BARNEY

Whaaa? Well, what the hell am I sposed
to do with this jumbo thong bikini?
(HOLDS IT UP)

MOE

Uh, Homer, I snuck you in a beer for
old time's sake.

Moe pulls a mug and a bottle from his jacket, and pours
Homer a tall one.

HOMER

(TOUCHED) Thanks, Moe.

Homer starts to drink.

MOE

Ah, you know, Homer, that beer ain't
free.

BARNEY

I'll buy it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S BEDROOM

Marge enters to find Lisa studying THE SPRINGFIELD JOURNAL OF CARDIOLOGY.

LISA

(RE: JOURNAL) Mom, this is fascinating.
Did you know that they'll stop Dad's
heart for six whole minutes?

MARGE

(ANNOYED MURMUR) I don't know if I like
you reading all those cardiology books.

LISA

No, Mom, it's very reassuring. And
I've learned a great deal from this
cow's heart I got at the butcher shop.

Lisa **PLOPS** down a cow's heart on butcher paper. Marge
turns her head.

MARGE

Oh honey, please, just leave this to
the experts.

INT. MEDICAL LIBRARY - DAY

Riviera crams for the operation by watching a video.

VIDEO TAPE NARRATOR (V.O.)

(CHEERY) ... after removing the leg's
saphenous vein, check it for leaks.
Then put it aside. We'll be needing it
later.

Riviera jots crib notes on his arm.

DR. RIVIERA

"Put aside. Will need later."

VIDEO TAPE NARRATOR (V.O.)

Insert the retractor and crank it until
the ribs swing open like a rusty
drawbridge.

DR. RIVIERA

(WATCHING TAPE) Oh no! Blood! (MOANS)

VIDEO TAPE NARRATOR

The next step is the most dangerous
part of all.

DR. RIVIERA

Ugh, worse than the blood!

VIDEO TAPE NARRATOR

The incision in the coronary...

Suddenly, the video **BLIPS** off and is replaced with a
daytime talk show with an unctuous HOST.

TALK SHOW HOST

And we are back with more of "People

Who Look Like Things."

A PANEL OF GUESTS sit beside items they resemble, including
a cash register, a palm tree, a broom and a jack-o-lantern.
One man looks like a coffee pot.

CLOSE UP - MAN

SUPER: BRAD JACOBS

BACK TO SCENE

DR. RIVIERA

Oh no! no! Someone taped over the end
of this. (CHEERING UP) Ugh. Well, if
I screw up, I just say one of the
nurses bump into me!

INT. HOSPITAL - HOMER'S ROOM

Marge and Maggie pay a final visit to Homer before his
operation.

HOMER

(WARMLY) Oh, my little Maggie, I may
never hold you again... ew, stinky
pants.

He quickly hands her to Marge.

HOMER

Now, Marge, if the unthinkable should
happen, you're gonna be lonely...

MARGE

Oh Homie, I could never remarry...

HOMER

Darn right. And to make sure, I want
to be stuffed and put on the couch as a
constant reminder of our marital vows.

Marge dabs a tear then:

MARGE

Ohhh... kids, you can come in now.

Bart and Lisa enter. Bart is dressed in his suit and tie. Lisa's in a nice dress. Marge takes Maggie out as Homer tilts his bed up. (This scene is reminiscent of "Terms of Endearment".)

HOMER

Bed goes up... Kids, I want to give you
some words to remember me by in case
something happens. Let's see... uh...
I think Billy Carter put it best when
he said, "'Tis nobler to be..." Oh,
I'm no good at this.

Homer stares uncomfortably at the kids for a beat. Lisa leans up to his ear and **WHISPERS** in.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Bart, the saddest thing about this is
I won't get to see you grow up,
because...

Homer stops. Lisa **WHISPERS** more in his ear.

HOMER (CONT'D)

I know you're going to turn out great,
with or without your old man.

BART

(TOUCHED) Thanks dad.

HOMER

And Lisa...

There's another uncomfortable silence. Homer gestures at Bart to help him. Bart **WHISPERS** in his ear.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(TO LISA) I guess this is the time to
tell you...

Bart **WHISPERS** again.

HOMER (CONT'D)

- - You're adopted and I don't like
you.

Lisa frowns.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Bart!

Bart **WHISPERS** in Homer's ear again.

HOMER (CONT'D)

But don't worry, because you've got a
big brother who loves you and will
always look out for you.

LISA

(SNIFFLING) Oh dad.

She gives Homer a big hug.

BART

I said "likes," "likes!" Geez, how
humiliatin'.

INT. OPERATING THEATER

Dr. Riviera addresses MED STUDENTS who are seated in the
glass-enclosed theater above the operating room.

DR. RIVIERA

Hi, everybody!

MED STUDENTS

Hi Dr. Nick!

As Riviera talks, we PAN the students, who act as if
they're at the movies... some **MUNCH** popcorn. One guy's
asleep and a couple is making out. Lisa sneaks in a rear
door and takes a seat, unnoticed.

DR. RIVIERA

Now if something should go wrong, let's
not get the law involved. One hand
washes the other -- Ooh, that reminds
me.

Riviera starts to scrub up.

CENTER STAGE

Homer lies there, surrounded by the OPERATING TEAM. The
ANESTHESIOLOGIST puts him under.

From HOMER'S POV, we see the doctors and nurses circle in
around him. The room gets fuzzy and Homer slips into
dreamland. The last thing Homer hears is...

DR. RIVIERA

What the hell is that?

Homer blacks out.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM

Marge, Bart and Maggie anxiously wait for news. Patty and
Selma walk up with a HANDSOME YOUNG MAN.

HANDSOME YOUNG MAN

Hello... *

PATTY

Marge, this is Andre. I think you two
would really hit it off. He's single.
He works at the DMV.

SELMA

He's in charge of unsquashing the
safety cones.

ANDRE

(CHUCKLES) It's really very simple --

MARGE

My husband is still alive!

PATTY

(FLATLY) Oh, thank God. I hope he
pulls through.

ANDRE

(SMOOTHLY) Not me. (CHUCKLES)

INT. MOE'S TAVERN

MOE

Let's have a moment of silent prayer
for our good friend Homer Simpson.

SFX: TOILET FLUSH

SFX: GLASS BREAKING

SFX: BELCH

MOE (CONT'D)

(SNIFFLING) That was beautiful.

INT. OPERATING THEATER

CLOSE UP on hands passing surgical instruments.

CLOSE UP on Riviera's brow furrowing in concentration as he
operates on Homer. Suddenly he stops.

NURSE

Doctor, what's wrong? Don't you know
where to make the incision?

DR. RIVIERA (V.O.)

Alright Nick, don't panic. Think back
to Med school.

RIVIERA FLASHBACKS TO HIS COLLEGE DAYS...

INT. COLLEGE FRAT HOUSE

He is at a swinging fraternity party hitting on a SIXTIES
BABE.

YOUNG RIVIERA

Seriously baby, I can prescribe
anything I want.

SIXTIES BABE

(GIGGLES)

FLASHBACK ENDS

BACK TO SCENE

DR. RIVIERA

(ALoud) I know I'm supposed to cut
something, but what? And where?

Lisa springs to her feet and pounds against the glass to
get Riviera's attention.

LISA

(LOUD THROUGH GLASS) Hey! The incision
in the coronary artery must be made
below the blockage. Below!

DR. RIVIERA

Thanks, little girl.

Riviera resumes operating with confidence.

DR. RIVIERA (CONT'D)

(SINGING) Happy, talkin, talkin, happy
talk. Talk about things you like to
do...

Relieved, Lisa drops back into her chair.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM

Marge, Bart and Maggie wait anxiously. Lisa emerges with Nick Riviera.

RIVIERA

Good news! The operation was a complete success.

MARGE

Oh, that's wonderful!

She **HUGS** Bart. A man walks up to Riviera. He has a leg where one of his arms should be.

ANGRY MAN

Dr. Nick Riviera?

NICK RIVIERA

Well if it isn't my old friend Mr. McGreg -- with a leg for an arm and an arm for a leg.

INT. INTENSIVE CARE CORRIDOR

Marge, Bart, Lisa and Maggie look in on a weak, but smiling Homer. Marge smiles happily.

LISA

All right, Dad!

BART

You rule intensive care!

Homer smiles back. He picks up a piece of pizza and starts eating.

MARGE

How'd he get that?

The nurse shrugs.

INSERT: Homer's heart. It vibrates to the beat of the last measures of the Simpsons' theme -- taking a long pause when the music pauses.

FADE OUT:

END OF STORY